



# Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission

Pres. - John Gettinger  
Treasurer – Robert Shepherd

V. Pres. – Dave Hacker  
Secretary – Dale Brier

**November 12, 2014 1:00 pm**

Big Four Depot  
200 N. 2nd Street  
Lafayette IN 47904

## Attendance

### **Voting Members Present:**

Adams County - Ryan Noblitt  
Allen County – Ron Zartman  
Carroll County - George Mears  
Cass County- Arin Shaver  
Fountain County - Bob Shepherd  
Gibson County - Bill Knowles  
Huntington County - Dave Hacker  
Knox County - Rama Sobhani  
Miami County - Kenneth Einselen  
Parke County – Phil Cox (alternate)  
Sullivan County - John Gettinger  
Tippecanoe County – Jim Andrew  
Vermillion County – Larry Southard  
Wabash County - Mike Beauchamp  
DNR – Dale Brier (alternate)

### **Non-Voting Members Present:**

None

### **Guests:**

Penny Barton – Vermillion Co. (alternate)  
Jewell Baxter - DNR  
Mercedes Brugh- Little Turtle Waterway  
Bernie Dahl – Banks of the Wabash  
Don Mathis – Huntington Co. (alternate)  
Stan Lambert – WREC  
Allen Nail – Tippecanoe Co. Parks  
Keith Poole – Wabash Co. (alternate)  
Rae Schnapp – Banks of the Wabash  
Talia Tittelfitz – WREC  
Sue Ulrich

### **Voting Members Absent:**

Jay County – Milo Miller  
Posey County - Ralph Weinzapfel  
Vigo County – Kara Kish  
Warren County - Steve Eberly  
Wells County - Scott Elzey

## Meeting minutes

### **Call to Order, Introductions, Announce Proxies, Open Agenda**

John Gettinger called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm. Gettinger asked that everyone introduce themselves and asked Dale Brier if there were any proxies. Dale said that there were no proxies. Gettinger asked if there were any changes to the agenda and Stan Lambert from Tippecanoe County asked for 10 minutes to make a presentation on their watershed project. Gettinger added the presentation to the agenda under comments from visitors and guests.

### **Review and Approval of September 10, 2014 Minutes**

Gettinger asked if everyone had a chance to review the September 10, 2014 minutes and called for a motion to approve the minutes. Bob Shepherd made the motion and James Andrew seconded. The motion passed.

## **Comments from Visitors or Guests**

Stan Lambert made a presentation updating the Commission of the activities of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) Watershed project. Lambert said that the work in the watershed extends through Tippecanoe, Warren, Fountain, Howard, Carroll, Miami and Cass counties. Over \$4 million in grant money has been received since 2009 and they have started implementing the management plans for these watersheds. Lambert also spoke on the Wabash Greenway trail extension in Warren and Fountain counties. Lambert said the urban plans are out of date, but they are conducting a survey at [Wasbashriver.net](http://Wasbashriver.net) and will use the results of the survey to re-envision their urban river front plans for the 350 acres of green space purchased. Lambert also said that in 2010 a cleanup project was done, which will allow for an extension of the Wabash Heritage Trail.

## **President's Report**

John Gettinger spoke on the river expedition with the 8<sup>th</sup> graders and how there was great interest shown by the adults and the kids alike. Gettinger said that he is involved with the West Central Watershed Alliance in regards to cleaning the river. Gettinger also spoke on the Hudsonville boat dock and the public access site that DNR is putting in on the north end of Sullivan County. Gettinger spoke about the nature class that he participates in with the 4<sup>th</sup> graders at Merom's nature center.

## **Finance Report**

Dale Brier passed out a copy of his report to the members. Brier said that the current balance as of 10/31/14 is \$393,822. That number does include all of the encumbrances of the 2012 grants. The revenue from July 1, 2014 is \$49,755. Dave Hacker said that this seems like a low amount. Brier said there is usually growth later in the year as the deposits are made.

## **Committee Reports**

- ✦ Grants - Dale Brier said that they only had two grant requests from the cities of Clinton and Montezuma. Each was for the full \$150,000. Both were eligible and both will be funded. George Mears asked about whether or not one could apply for more than one grant, Brier said there are no rules prohibiting this. Gettinger asked for suggestions on getting more interest from the communities along the river in applying for the grant money. Brier mentioned getting the word out and setting the criteria for the manual sooner. The commission discussed setting the criteria for grants; whether they wanted to change the criteria or leave them the same. Brier suggested that the WRHCC look at the list of possible projects the 2012 grant committee used. At the next meeting the list can be modified and the commission can vote via email and have results for the March meeting. Arin Shaver made a motion to do that, Larry Southard seconded the motion and it passed.
- ✦ Budget - Bob Shepherd said that he used the numbers from Brier's report and matched them to the budget that had been approved. Brier questioned him about the title of Program Maintenance. Shepherd explained that this was for the \$1000 sponsorships. Ron Zartman asked for clarification on what the sponsorship money was for because the term Program Maintenance was misleading. Hacker gave an example of the term maintenance; stating that maintenance would fall under getting the river road signs put up and maintained.
- ✦ Executive Report-Gettinger said that he has asked Phil Cox, Ron Zartman and Rama Sobhani to serve on the nominating committee for next term.

- ✦ Banks of the Wabash - Ken Einselen said there was a discussion about mini grants and the 200 year along the Wabash event. Einselen also said that there would be a meeting in Wabash on November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Honeywell Center at 10 am.

## **Old Business**

- ✦ Wabash River Road route- Einselen said that Vermillion County had given him information on their river road route. Rama Sobhani asked about the routes meeting in each county as a single corridor. Einselen said that it is a local decision of what route that each county wants to take, but the roads need to meet at county borders.
- ✦ Vote on funding requests from September meeting
  - Little Turtle Waterway fundraiser - \$1000- Mercedes Brugh asked the commission for \$1000 for an annual brunch and float down river fundraiser. Brugh explained that \$500 will be used for start up expenses. Brugh said they are hoping to make at least \$300 from the \$10 per participant charge. Brugh said the other \$500 will be used for restoring the landscape along the river with plants and for the maintenance. Hacker asked the distance of the landscape from the water's edge. Brugh said from 60 ft to 200 ft. Brugh stated that the exact date had not been set for the event, but it should be in June or July. Motion to accept the request was made by George Mears and seconded by James Andrews. The motion passed.
  - Art Spaces design project - \$1000- Kara Kish presented this request at the last meeting. Hacker said that the plan has already been funded, but that the request is for the design work. The total budget for the design phase is \$25,000; they have applied for \$20,000 from other sources and have received \$3000 and another \$1000 from private donations. Sobhani asked about the return of the money if the project is not funded. Hacker said no provisions have been made for the return of the money if the plan is not funded. A motion was made to accept the sponsorship request and the chairman is to establish a committee to set policy on the sponsorships. Shepherd made the motion and Hacker seconded it. The motion passed.
  - Banks of the Wabash project - \$3000-Rae Schnapp made a request of \$3000 for the 200 year along the Wabash event. Schnapp presented the commission with a proposed total budget report and stated that they are exploring funding matches with other sources. Schnapp said a mock website [www.WabashRiver2016.org](http://www.WabashRiver2016.org) is under development and that this site would include events happening along the Wabash. Schnapp explained what the commission's money would pay for; salaries, marketing and equipment. Hacker and Brier questioned Schnapp about the use of the funds for salaries. Schnapp said that at least 1 full time position would be created for the project and there would also be internships. The motion was made to accept the request by Zartman and seconded by Beauchamp. The motion passed. There was one opposing vote.

## **New Business**

New funding requests- Stan Lambert from Tippecanoe County request \$1000 for their annual Wabash Riverfest event the second Saturday in July. Lambert said it is a free event where they provide space for Wabash River related groups to help educate visitors about the river. There will be canoe trips, pony rides and fishing. Lambert stated the commission would be included and recognized on their signs and all press releases. This request will be voted on at the next meeting.

## **Strategic Planning**

Kara Kish was not present. Kish will make a presentation at the next meeting.

## **Announcements & General Reminders/Discussion**

✦ ***River Currents*** – Sue Ulrich asked for articles for the *River Currents*.

✦ **Upcoming committee meetings-** none

✦ **Other county or special event announcements -**

A Bicentennial Commission meeting will be in Indianapolis on at 10 am on Friday  
The 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in May, Allen County will have their annual Sol Fest at the county park. This would be a good opportunity to present information on the commission. The WRHCC sponsors this event.

Vigo County Historical Society recently dedicated a replica schoolhouse at Fowler Park.

✦ **Final comments by Commission members, alternates, and guests-** None

Mike Beauchamp made the motion for adjournment and Ron Zartman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm

**Next Meeting:** January 14, 2015 in Indianapolis  
Fort Benjamin Harrison, 1:00 PM in the Lawrence Room in the Garrison  
Lunch before the meeting will be at 11:30 in the Garrison

# 48686 Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund

FY15 as of 10/31/2014

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
431401	AD - Oil and Gas royalty along		\$ 49,755.08
510101	Payroll Salaries & Wages	\$ 3,608.97	
516003	Payroll Social Security	\$ 251.45	
517003	Payroll Perf St Pd Em COntr	\$ 108.27	
517005	Payroll PERF State Share	\$ 404.21	
518105	Anthem CDHP1	\$ 172.91	
518151	Anthem Trad 2	\$ 266.99	
518606	Payroll Life Insurance	\$ 5.34	
518798	Payroll Delta Dental Trad	\$ 21.31	
518800	Anthem Vision	\$ 2.50	
518901	Payroll Employee Assistance	\$ 0.59	
519006	Payroll Long Term Disability	\$ 59.92	
519503	Payroll Def Comp - StateMatch	\$ 24.90	
519721	Payroll Health Savings Acct 1	\$ 15.42	
541002	Mot Veh Ex - Gasoline	\$ 59.57	
591024	NonRealEstRnt-Vehicle Rentals	\$ 29.69	
595110	InState Travel - Mileage	\$ 2,218.96	
595180	InState Travel - Board Member	\$ 39.00	
599116	AdmOp-Event Sponsor	\$ 2,000.00	
659410	Postage	\$ 104.34	

**Total FY15 Expense To Date: \$ 9,394.34**

Fund Balance:	
	6/30/2014 419,011
FY14 revenues	49,755
FY14 Expenses	9,394
FY14 Encumbrances	65,550
<b>balance as of 10/31/2014</b>	<b>393,822</b>

DNR payroll	\$ 4,942.78
travel costs	\$ 2,347.22
sponsorships	\$ 2,000.00
operating	\$ 104.34
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,394.34</b>